



te tuhi

2016-17 Review

Te Tuhi 2016–17

178,605 visitors

13 exhibitions

17 artists

10 new artworks commissioned

5,827 school students

115 workshops & classes

25 talks & lectures

2016–17 was a successful period for the Te Tuhi exhibition programme, which featured 17 artists in total ranging from leading national and international figures to established and emerging Auckland artists. The spring 2016 season kicked off with group show *Share/Cheat/Unite*, which included artists and collectives both from Aotearoa New Zealand and from wide-ranging international locations such as Brazil, South Africa, Finland, China and Guatemala. The exhibition had an extensive offsite programme and received critical acclaim, including an award for Exhibition Excellence – Art at the ServiceIQ 2017 New Zealand Museum Awards.

The autumn 2017 season began with one of Te Tuhi's most ambitious commissions to date, Yona Lee's *In Transit (Arrival)*. This site-specific installation spanned the entirety of Te Tuhi's building and received considerable press coverage. The exhibition programme involved partnerships with significant organisations such as Auckland Art Festival and White Night, the Chartwell Trust, and Waiheke Sculpture on the Gulf. The ability to maintain these partnerships is a testament of Te Tuhi's strong reputation as one of New Zealand's leading contemporary art galleries.

Exhibitions



Yu-Cheng Chou, *A Working History* – Lu Chieh-Te, 2016
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett



Kalisolaite 'Uhila, *Pigs in the yard II*, 2016–17 (installation view)
commissioned by Te Tuhi
photo by Sam Hartnett

Share/Cheat/Unite

Jonathas de Andrade // Darcell Apelu
Yu-Cheng Chou // Mark Harvey
Sasha Huber // Aníbal López (A-1 53167)
Ivan Mršić // John Vea // Hu Xiangqian
Vaughn Sadie & Ntsoana
Contemporary Dance Theatre
YOUAREHEREWEAREHERE

13 August – 23 October 2016

This group show featured a national and international selection of artists. The works explored areas of social psychology, addressing a range of socio-political topics through photography, design, documented performance, collaborative and video-based practices.

Kalisolaite 'Uhila: Pigs in the yard II

12 November 2016 – 19 March 2017

Pigs in the yard II was a new Te Tuhi commission by Auckland-based artist Kalisolaite 'Uhila. In this solo exhibition 'Uhila revisited an earlier series of works investigating the relationship between humans and pigs. The first iteration was a performance in which 'Uhila reversed the relationship of humans and animals by allowing a group of pigs to run free while the artist and the audience were confined behind fences. In a later work he shared a container with a piglet for a week. For Te Tuhi, 'Uhila developed this inquiry further through a video installation documenting the life of pigs and the cooking of a whole pig as a live action.

Exhibitions



Jem Noble, *Dream Dialects*, 2016–17 (installation view)
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett

Jem Noble: *Dream Dialects*

12 November 2016 – 19 March 2017

Dream Dialects was a solo exhibition of online, offsite and gallery-based artworks by Jem Noble, a British artist based in Vancouver (Unceded Coast Salish Territories) and Melbourne (Kulin Nation). In this Te Tuhi-commissioned exhibition, Noble drew from ongoing research investigating technical media artefacts and processes as intimate entanglements of matter, subjectivity and culture, through which the conditions of globalisation are both produced and contested.



Katrina Beekhuis, *Potters Pink*, 2016–17 (installation view)
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett

Katrina Beekhuis: *Potters Pink*

12 November 2016 – 19 March 2017

Potters Pink was a Te Tuhi-commissioned solo exhibition by artist Katrina Beekhuis. In this exhibition, Beekhuis drew on her continuing research into the automatic process of perception to create a new body of work specifically for Te Tuhi's Bev Smaill gallery space. Katrina Beekhuis was the 2015 Te Tuhi Iris Fisher Scholar.

Exhibitions



Yona Lee, *In Transit (Arrival)*, 2017 (installation view)
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland, in association with Auckland Arts Festival
photo by Sam Hartnett

Yona Lee: In Transit (Arrival)

11 March – 19 November 2017

This major Te Tuhi commission explored the structure and pulse of civilisation through a vast entangled structure made of the stainless-steel tubes commonly used as barriers and handrails in train stations and airports around the world. The ingenious, simple design of this system makes it easy to install and easily adapted for different purposes, and is the means by which bodies can be corralled in efficient uniformity. Through this elaborate construction, Lee provided an intriguing framework to consider the objects that surround us, the infrastructures that mobilise and the systems that control.

Exhibitions



Jeremy Leatinu'u, *Earthpushers*, 2017 (video still)
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett

Jeremy Leatinu'u: Earthpushers

13 May – 22 October 2017

In a video work commissioned by Te Tuhi, Leatinu'u documented how the public helped him transport 500 bags of earth from the Auckland ferry terminal to Waiheke Island. This physical and poetic gesture recognised the loss of Waiheke's whenua and offered a meditation on the contemporary transience of earth. The video specifically traces Leatinu'u's extensive research into the past and current histories of earth movement, and the process of making the work, as well as the overwhelming community engagement required to transfer about a tonne of earth across the Waitematā Harbour.



Bruce Barber, *I Swear*, 2017 (installation view)
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett

Bruce Barber: I Swear

13 May – 22 October 2017

Canada-based New Zealand artist Bruce Barber explores the politics of citizenship through the ongoing work *I Swear*. First exhibited in 2008 at Artspace Sydney, *I Swear* consists of a series of billboards, an archive and a public discussion that share varying forms of communication that shape nation states and affect the social status of people.

Project Wall



Hannah Valentine

Grips, slips, of space, a memory, 2016–17

commissioned by Te Tuhi

photo by Sam Hartnett

Hannah Valentine: Grips, slips, of space, a memory

21 November 2016 –

26 February 2017

For Te Tuhi's Project Wall, Hannah Valentine created a series of small bronze objects. In *Grips, slips, of space, a memory*, Valentine invited visitors to pick up and hold the objects for the duration of their visit.

Billboards



Natasha Matila-Smith

Futuristic Frangipani (from the series

Lonely Island), 2016

commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland

Natasha Matila-Smith: Lonely Island

13 August –

23 October 2016

Auckland-based artist Natasha Matila-Smith addressed the restrictive representation of Pacific culture within Western European society. She muddled iconic Pacific flora such as coconuts, frangipani and hibiscus flowers, in vibrant hues, using digital filters pushed to their limits until the imagery started to ghost, glitch and fracture.



Shelley Jacobson

Geyser Off, 2016

commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland

Shelley Jacobson: Surface Expressions

12 November 2016 –

11 May 2017

Auckland-based Shelley Jacobson presented an iteration of her publication project *Surface Expressions*, in which she explored the Wairakei geothermal area in the central North Island through images and found text.

Awards and Partnerships



Jonathas de Andrade, *O Levante*, 2012–13,
courtesy of Vermelho Gallery, Brazil

This year saw many achievements based on the work of previous years. Te Tuhi also deepened its relationships with other institutions in 2016–17.

Te Tuhi's 2016 exhibition *Share/Cheat/Unite* won the award for Exhibition Excellence – Art at the ServiceIQ 2017 New Zealand Museum Awards during the Museums Aotearoa conference. *THE HIVE HUMS WITH MANY MINDS* was also a finalist in that category, giving Te Tuhi two out of the three nominations. About *Share/Cheat/Unite*, the judges wrote:

“At the leading edge of curatorial practice and exhibition making within Aotearoa and internationally, this project is an example of Te Tuhi being real innovators and risk takers. Pushing their modest size staff and budget to capacity to achieve an ambitious and responsive exhibition. Exploring different methods of communication, a highly ambitious curatorial framework, and an inventive approach to creating a platform for artists and audiences to explore urgent societal and political conditions and concerns. The artists

remain central in the production of the new offsite commissions. Impressive audience numbers, and the scope of the programming reflects current methodology and consciousness around art practice and community.”

The judges of the award were Megan Dunn (freelance art writer), Heather Galbraith (Associate Professor, Whiti o Rehua School of Art, Massey University) and Zara Stanhope (Principal Curator and Head of Programmes, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki).

In Transit (Arrival) by Yona Lee opened in March 2017. This new work was commissioned by Te Tuhi in partnership with the Chartwell Trust and Auckland Arts Festival. An artist talk with Yona Lee was included in the programme of events for White Night, with Te Tuhi on the Art Bus route.

Te Tuhi also worked in partnership with Waiheke Sculpture on the Gulf during the commission of a new video work by Jeremy Leatinu'u, *Earthpushers*.

Education

In 2016–17, Te Tuhi provided 5,827 school students a creative experience that builds on classroom learning. Tailored programmes for groups of students, individual schools and teachers for 2016–17 included:

Future Animators at Manurewa High School

The annual programme focused on animation work for Year 11, 12 and 13 students from Manurewa High School ran again in 2017. Te Tuhi's educator makes visits to the school throughout the year to learn, share and provide feedback to each student involved. Since its inception, Future Animators has grown significantly in student participation.

Top Art

Te Tuhi hosted the national exhibition of the highest-achieving Level 3 visual arts portfolios in the country, and alongside this presented works from nine local east Auckland schools. This year, Te Tuhi partnered with Māngere Arts Centre to present work from South Auckland schools.

5 Days in the Art World

Fifteen talented students were selected by Te Tuhi from across Auckland to take part in this youth initiative in April 2017. The group visited a number of art schools, galleries and studios where they spoke to professionals in the field to gain a wider understanding of practice in the creative industries.

Classes

Te Tuhi also offers a range of classes teaching drawing, painting, mixed media and clay. Other programmes include Art Today, a year-long course about contemporary art; and the Nanette Cameron School, a two-year course of interior design.



About Te Tuhi

“Te Tuhi is rapidly turning into the most important contemporary art institution in Auckland.” – John Hurrell, Eye Contact

Te Tuhi's name references the great Māori explorer Manawatare who signalled his arrival in Aotearoa New Zealand by making his tuhi, or mark, on a pōhutukawa tree using karamaea, a red ochre. Te Tuhi, strives to live up to this legacy of exploration by being one of New Zealand's foremost contemporary art spaces known for commissioning ambitious new artworks by a diverse selection of artists.

Te Tuhi is also renowned for supporting curatorial research resulting in exhibitions that are locally engaged, regionally responsive and internationally ambitious with a strong awareness of social, political and environmental issues.

Te Tuhi has worked with many nationally and internationally established artists such as The Otolith Group, L. Budd, Phil Dadson, Julian Dashper, Tehching Hsieh, Dieneke Jansen, Maddie Leach, Alex Monteith, Kate Newby, Tom Nicholson, Michael Parekowhai, William Pope.L, Ann Shelton, James Richards, Santiago Sierra Shannon Te Ao, Luke Willis Thompson, Kalisolaite 'Uhila and Artur Zmijewski.

te tuhi

Open Daily: 9am – 5pm
(closed on public holidays)

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PRINCIPAL FUNDERS



SPONSORS AND PARTNERS



Page one image:

Yona Lee, *In Transit (Arrival)*, 2017 (installation view)

commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland, in association with Auckland Arts Festival

photo by Sam Hartnett